



# *Milwaukee County*

Supervisor Elizabeth M. Coggs, 10<sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., 13<sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor Peggy A. West, 12<sup>th</sup> District

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## **WALKER ADMINISTRATION WITHHOLDS LAYOFF DOCUMENT FROM COUNTY BOARD AND GENERAL PUBLIC**

**Milwaukee, WI** – Members of the Milwaukee County Board’s Finance & Audit Committee released the following statements after today’s special meeting of the County Board’s Committee on Finance & Audit.

“The Finance & Audit Committee met for over seven hours today to hear reports from Constitutional Officers and department heads on the budget and workweek reductions proposed by the County Executive. Much to the surprise of many Supervisors, we received a document detailing that, effective Friday, 310 County positions are at risk for layoff. It’s disappointing that no one at the County Board received this document from the Administration,” **Supervisor Elizabeth M. Coggs** said. “That’s a major point of concern for me as a County Supervisor and Chair of the Finance Committee.”

“Based on this document, it’s reasonable to infer that layoff notices could go out on Friday. Although members of the Administration claim layoffs are not currently being considered, it’s extremely disappointing that the County Executive has documented the impact of layoffs—that could potentially take effect this month—without informing the County Board. Had we not held this meeting today, we might not have found out about this at all—perhaps until it was too late,” **Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr.**, said.

“The fact that we found out from the union—at 3 o’clock today—that more than 300 layoff notices could be issued at the end of this week, with no advance information provided to the County Board, is deeply troubling. The County Executive’s ill-advised decision to not share information with the County Board severely undermines any effort to work collectively,” said **Supervisor Peggy West**. “For the greater good of Milwaukee County, the County Executive needs to realize the importance of working with the Legislative branch on behalf of County residents. We have not received any communication on this from the County Executive, his staff, the Department of Administrative Services, the Labor Relations Division, or anybody else.”

“We all understand that Milwaukee County faces a possible deficit this year, and we are willing to work together to overcome these challenges, but how can we work collectively when the Executive branch does not share crucial information with the Legislative branch?” Supervisor Coggs added. “The lack of communication here is beyond disappointing. It is unacceptable.”

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